

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network,
2 comprising:
3 a) receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery supply chain
4 utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery products by the
5 machinery outlets;
6 b) generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering machinery
7 products from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;
8 c) transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain
9 utilizing the network;
10 d) transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply chain
11 utilizing the network; and
12 e) forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of
2 machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery
2 outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based
3 interface.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor
2 and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the network includes the Internet.

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- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,
2 and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.
- 1 7. A system for managing a machinery supply chain utilizing a network, comprising:
2 a) logic for receiving data from a plurality of machinery outlets of a machinery
3 supply chain utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of machinery by the
4 machinery outlets;
5 b) logic for generating an electronic order form based on the data for ordering
6 machinery from a machinery distributor of the machinery supply chain;
7 c) logic for transmitting the data to the machinery distributor of the machinery
8 supply chain utilizing the network;
9 d) logic for transmitting the data to a machinery supplier of the machinery supply
10 chain utilizing the network; and
11 e) logic for forecasting activity in the machinery supply chain utilizing the data.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the data is parsed to match each of a plurality of
2 machinery distributors and machinery suppliers.
- 1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the data is made accessible to the machinery
2 outlets, the machinery distributor, the machinery supplier via a network-based
3 interface.
- 1 10. The system of claim 9, wherein the data is accessible to the machinery distributor
2 and the machinery supplier only after verification of an identity thereof.
- 1 11. The system of claim 7, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 12. The system of claim 7, wherein the machinery outlets, the machinery distributor,
2 and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.

- 1 18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the machinery outlets, the
2 machinery distributor, and the machinery supplier each forecast utilizing the data.